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 TO: Attn: Examiner Gerald B. Klebe FROM: Linda L. Palomar, Reg. No. 37,903

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**NOTES:**

Inventor: Dean A. Cervenka

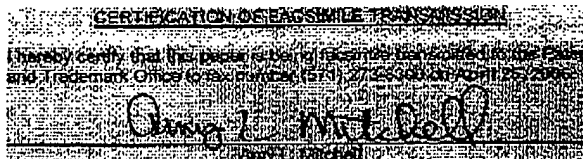
For: TAILGATE STEP

Art Unit: 3618

Serial No.: 10/820,678

Filed: April 8, 2004

Attorney Ref.: 1816/40915/Case 2

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**APR 25 2006**

Attorney Docket No. 1816/40915/Case 2

FORM PTO-1083

In re application of: **Dean A. Cervenka**  
Serial No.: **10/820,678**  
Filed: **April 8, 2004**  
Examiner: **Gerald B. Klebe**  
Art Unit: **3618**  
For: **TAILGATE STEP**

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION	
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 Amy L. Mitchell	

BOX: AMENDMENT- NON FEE  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Response to the Office Action mailed January 25, 2006.

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:


	(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid for	Present Extra
TOTAL	* 25	MINUS	** 25	0
INDEP.	* 3	MINUS	** 3	0
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM				

SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Addit. Fee
x 25 =	\$ .00
x 100 =	\$ .00
+ 180 =	\$ .00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ .00</b>

LARGE ENTITY	
Rate	Addit. Fee
x 50 =	\$ .00
x 200 =	\$ .00
+ 360 =	\$ .00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ .00</b>

- \* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.  
 \*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.  
 \*\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.  
 The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.
- ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 20-1495 in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fee. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1495. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ Any filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17

Dated: April 25, 2006

  
 Richard A. Giangiori    Reg. No. 24,284  
 Linda L. Palomar        Reg. No. 37,903

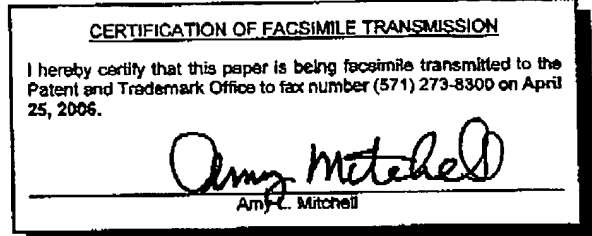
Attorneys of Record

TREXLER, BUSHNELL, GIANGIORGI, BLACKSTONE & MARR, LTD. • 105 W. ADAMS ST. • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60603 • (312) 704-1890  
 960417.WPD

FORM PTO-1083

Attorney Docket No. 1816/40915/Case 2

In re application of: Dean A. Cervenka  
 Serial No.: 10/820,678  
 Filed: April 8, 2004  
 Examiner: Gerald B. Klebe  
 Art Unit: 3618  
 For: TAILGATE STEP



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TOTAL	* 25	MINUS	** 25	0
INDEP.	* 3	MINUS	** 3	0
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM				

SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Addit. Fee
x 25 =	\$ .00
x 100 =	\$ .00
+ 180 =	\$ .00
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	\$ .00

OR

LARGE ENTITY	
Rate	Addit. Fee
x 50 =	\$ .00
x 200 =	\$ .00
+ 360 =	\$ .00
TOTAL	\$ .00


OR

TOTAL \$ .00

- \* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.  
 \*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.  
 \*\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.  
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Dated: April 25, 2006

  
 Richard A. Giangiorgi Reg. No. 24,284  
 Linda L. Palomar Reg. No. 37,903

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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/820,678 )  
Conf. No: 8540 )  
Filed: April 8, 2004 )  
Art Unit: 3618 )  
Examiner: Gerald B. Klebe )  
For: TAILGATE STEP )  
Inventor: Dean A. Cervenka )  
Atty. Ref: 1816/40915/Case 2 )

## CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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April 25, 2006

Date

Amy L. Mitchell

Amy L. Mitchell

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JANUARY 25, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application and in response to the Office Action  
mailed January 25, 2006, having a shortened statutory date for response set to expire on April 25,  
2006, kindly enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks toward  
reconsideration of the present application.

Serial No.: 10/820,678  
Art Unit: 3618  
Page 1